



04-01-04

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

"Express Mail" mailing label number:

EV 316334557 US

Date of Deposit:

March 31, 2004

Type of Document(s):

Information Disclosure Statement
(*In duplicate*);
Form PTO/SB/08a, Information
Disclosure Statement by Applicant
Two (2) references; and
Return postcard

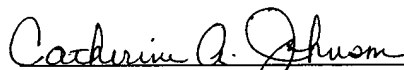
Serial No.:

10/743,359

Date Filed:

December 22, 2003

I hereby certify that the documents identified above are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and are addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Catherine A. Johnson



Express Mail No. EV 316334557 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ZIMMER et al.
Serial No.: 10/743,359
Filing Date: December 22, 2003
For: **DAMPING DEVICE**
Examiner: To be assigned
Art Unit: To be assigned

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicants submit herewith on Form PTO/SB/08a a listing of documents known to the Applicants and/or their attorney. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the cited documents and making the same of record in the prosecution of the above-identified application. In so doing, Applicants do not waive any rights to take appropriate action to establish patentability over the listed documents should they be applied as references against the claims of the present application. Pursuant to the Notice in the Official Gazette of August 5, 2003, wherein the Patent Office waived the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i), Applicants have not enclosed copies of the U.S. patent references.


This statement should not be construed as a representation that more material information does not exist or that a search of the relevant art has been made. It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08a be expressly considered by the Examiner, made of record in the application, and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to the mailing of a first Office Action in this application, and, therefore, no certification or fee is required (37 C.F.R. § 1.97b(3)). However, should any fees be due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 16-1435. A duplicate of this sheet is attached for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

3/31/04



Todd W. Galinski (Reg. No. 51,713)

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP
1001 West Fourth Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
(336) 607-7300



Express Mail No. EV 316334557 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ZIMMER et al.
Serial No.: 10/743,359
Filing Date: December 22, 2003
For: **DAMPING DEVICE**
Examiner: To be assigned
Art Unit: To be assigned

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicants submit herewith on Form PTO/SB/08a a listing of documents known to the Applicants and/or their attorney. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the cited documents and making the same of record in the prosecution of the above-identified application. In so doing, Applicants do not waive any rights to take appropriate action to establish patentability over the listed documents should they be applied as references against the claims of the present application. Pursuant to the Notice in the Official Gazette of August 5, 2003, wherein the Patent Office waived the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i), Applicants have not enclosed copies of the U.S. patent references.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that more material information does not exist or that a search of the relevant art has been made. It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08a be expressly considered by the Examiner, made of record in the application, and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to the mailing of a first Office Action in this application, and, therefore, no certification or fee is required (37 C.F.R. § 1.97b(3)). However, should any fees be due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 16-1435. A duplicate of this sheet is attached for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

3/31/04



Todd W. Galinski (Reg. No. 51,713)

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP
1001 West Fourth Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
(336) 607-7300

PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner
Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. * Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). * See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). * For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.